

Attorney Docket No. PC10616A
Application No. 09/940,165

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A method of administering a growth hormone secretagogue to a patient, the method comprising the step of intermittently administering to a patient in need of growth hormone secretagogue administration a therapeutically effective amount of a growth hormone secretagogue.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the patient is a human.

Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the growth hormone secretagogue is administered every second day.

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the growth hormone secretagogue is administered every third day.

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the growth hormone secretagogue is administered every fourth day or every fifth day.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the growth hormone secretagogue is administered three times a week.

Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the growth hormone secretagogue is administered four times a week.

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the growth hormone secretagogue is administered orally.

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Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the growth hormone secretagogue is administered using an immediate release formulation.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the growth hormone secretagogue is administered using a controlled release formulation.

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 9 wherein the controlled release formulation is a sustained release formulation, a delayed release formulation, or a combination thereof.

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the growth hormone secretagogue is administered using a combination of immediate release and controlled release formulations.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the growth hormone secretagogue is 2-amino-N-[2-(3a-(R)-benzyl-2-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydro-pyrazolo[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-1-(R)-benzyloxymethyl-2-oxo-ethyl]-isobutyramide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, or a salt of the prodrug.

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the growth hormone secretagogue is 2-amino-N-[2-(3a-(R)-benzyl-2-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydro-pyrazolo[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-1-(R)-benzyloxymethyl-2-oxo-ethyl]-isobutyramide L-tartrate.

Claims 15-16 (canceled).

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the growth hormone secretagogue is administered using a tablet or capsule.

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Claim 18 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the growth hormone is administered once, twice or three times daily on the days of administration.

Claim 19 (original): A method of administering 2-amino-N-[2-(3a-(R)-benzyl-2-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydro-pyrazolo[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-1-(R)-benzyloxymethyl-2-oxo-ethyl]-isobutyramide L-tartrate to a patient in need thereof, the method comprising the step of Intermittently administering a therapeutically effective amount of 2-amino-N-[2-(3a-(R)-benzyl-2-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydro-pyrazolo[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-1-(R)-benzyloxymethyl-2-oxo-ethyl]-isobutyramide L-tartrate.

Claim 20 (original): The method of claim 19 wherein the patient is a human.

Claim 21 (original): The method of claim 19 wherein 2-amino-N-[2-(3a-(R)-benzyl-2-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydro-pyrazolo[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-1-(R)-benzyloxymethyl-2-oxo-ethyl]-isobutyramide L-tartrate is administered every second day.

Claim 22 (original): The method of claim 19 wherein 2-amino-N-[2-(3a-(R)-benzyl-2-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydro-pyrazolo[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-1-(R)-benzyloxymethyl-2-oxo-ethyl]-isobutyramide L-tartrate is administered every third day.

Claim 23 (original): The method of claim 19 wherein the 2-amino-N-[2-(3a-(R)-benzyl-2-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydro-pyrazolo[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-1-(R)-benzyloxymethyl-2-oxo-ethyl]-isobutyramide L-tartrate is administered orally in a tablet or capsule.

Claim 24 (original): The method of claim 19 wherein 2-amino-N-[2-(3a-(R)-benzyl-2-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydro-pyrazolo[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-1-(R)-

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benzyloxymethyl-2-oxo-ethyl]- isobutyramide L-tartrate is administered in an amount in the range of about 1 mg to about 10 mg per day on the days of administration.

Claim 25 (original): The method of claim 19 wherein the intermittent administration of 2-amino-N-[2-(3a-(R)-benzyl-2-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,3a,4,6,7-hexahydro-pyrazolo[4,3-c]pyridin-5-yl)-1-(R)-benzyloxymethyl-2-oxo-ethyl]-isobutyramide L-tartrate results in a peak plasma concentration in humans of growth hormone of about 5ng/ml or greater.

Claim 26 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the patient is obese or has musculoskeletal frailty, osteoporosis, congestive heart failure or insulin resistance.

Claims 27-30 (canceled).

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